AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims

1. (Currently Amended)   A method ~~Method~~ for access control in a multicast system when distributing data from a source ~~(VS)~~ on a common link ~~(L3)~~ to at least two users ~~(U1-U12)~~ via a node, comprising the following steps: ~~(BN21),~~ ~~characterized by the following steps~~:

assigning a weight to each user ~~(U1-U12)~~ associated with the node ~~(BN21)~~, ~~which~~ wherein the weights of each user determine each user's allowed bandwidth~~, i.e.~~ ~~bandwidth allowed to use out of available bandwidth on the common link (L3)~~;

receiving to the node ~~(BN21)~~, a request to join a multicast session ~~(S81)~~, from a first user ~~(U1)~~; and

comparing, in the node ~~(BN21)~~, actual bandwidth usage by the first user ~~(U1)~~ with the first user's allowed bandwidth, wherein the actual bandwidth usage is calculated as the sum of the first user's allowed bandwidth portion ~~part~~ of each used session on the common link ~~(L3) including~~ and the actual bandwidth usage by the first user ~~the new request, with the users (U1) allowed bandwidth~~.

2. (Currently Amended)   The method for access control in a multicast system according to claim 1, further comprising: ~~comprising the following further step~~:

~~deny~~ denying the request if the first user's allowed bandwidth is lower than the actual bandwidth.

3. (Currently Amended)   The method for access control in a multicast system according to claim 1, further comprising the following ~~further~~ steps:

~~finding out~~ determining that the requested multicast session (S_{81}) is used by at least one other user ~~(U8, U12)~~; and

allowing the request from the first user. ~~U1.~~

4.   (Currently Amended)   The method for access control in a multicast system according to claim 1, further comprising the following ~~further~~ steps:

~~perceiving~~ determining that the first user ~~(U1)~~ used the session ~~($S_{g,t}$)~~ less than a predefined period of time ~~qualification time ago~~;

changing, temporarily, the first user's weight; and

allowing the request if the allowed bandwidth is higher than the actual bandwidth.

5.   (Currently Amended)   The method for access control in a multicast system according to claim 4, comprising ~~before changing the user's weight~~, the following ~~further~~ step:

~~perceiving~~ prior to changing the first user's weight, determining that the first user used the session ~~($S_{g,t}$)~~ ~~during a time period~~ for a period of time that exceeds a predetermined guarantee time.

6.   (Currently Amended)   The method for access control in a multicast system according to claim 4 ~~or 5~~, comprising the following further steps:

the first user leaving ~~(U1) leaves~~ the requested session $S_{g,t}$; and

changing ~~back~~ the first user's weight to the weight's ~~it's~~ original value.

7.   (Currently Amended)   An arrangement ~~Arrangement~~ for access control in a multicast system when distributing data from a source ~~(VS)~~ on a common link ~~(L3)~~ to at least two users ~~(U1-U12)~~ via a node ~~(BN21)~~, the arrangement comprising: ~~which arrangement is characterized by~~:

means for assigning a weight to each user ~~(U1-U12)~~ associated with the node ~~(BN21)~~, ~~which weights determine~~ the weights determining each user's allowed bandwidth; ~~i. e. bandwidth allowed to use out of available bandwidth on the common link (L3)~~;

means in the node ~~(BN21)~~ for receiving a request to join a multicast session ~~($S_{g,t}$)~~, from a first user ~~(U1)~~ ;

means for comparing, in the node (BN21), actual bandwidth usage by the <u>first</u> user (U1) <u>to the first user's allowed bandwidth, wherein the first user's actual bandwidth usage is</u> calculated as the sum of the <u>first</u> user's <u>allowed</u> bandwidth <u>portion</u> part of each used session on the common link <u>and the actual bandwidth usage by the first user</u> (L3) ~~including the new request, with the users(U1) allowed bandwidth~~.

8.   (Currently Amended)   <u>The arrangement</u> ~~Arrangement~~ for access control in a multicast system according to claim 7, comprising means for denying the request if the <u>first user's</u> allowed bandwidth is lower than the actual bandwidth.

9.   (Currently Amended)   <u>The arrangement</u> ~~Arrangement~~ for access control in a multicast system according to claim 7, comprising:

- means for <u>determining</u> ~~finding out~~ that the requested session (S_{gi}) is used by at least one other user (U8, U12); <u>and</u>

- means for allowing the request from <u>the first user</u> U1.

10.   (Currently Amended)   <u>The arrangement</u> ~~Arrangement~~ for access control in a multicast system according to claim 7, comprising:

- means for <u>determining</u> ~~perceiving~~ that the user (U1) used the session (S_{gi}) less than a predefined <u>period of time</u> ~~qualification time ago~~;

- means for ~~changing~~ temporarily <u>changing</u> the <u>first</u> user's weight;

- means for allowing the request if the <u>first user's</u> allowed bandwidth is higher than the actual bandwidth.

11.   (Currently Amended)   <u>The arrangement</u> ~~Arrangement~~ for access control in a multicast system according to claim 10, comprising:

- means <u>for determining</u> ~~perceiving~~ that the <u>first</u> user used the session (S_{gi}) during a time period that exceeds a predetermined <u>guaranteed time period</u> ~~guarantee time~~.

12.   (Currently Amended)   The arrangement ~~Arrangement~~ for access control in a multicast system according to claim 10 ~~or 11~~, further comprising means for changing ~~back~~ the first user's weight to the weight's ~~it's~~ original value.

13.   (Currently Amended)   The arrangement ~~Arrangement~~ for access control in a multicast system according to claim 7, further ~~any of the claims 7-12~~ comprising means for calculating the first user's ~~(U1)~~ actual bandwidth.

14.   (Currently Amended)   The arrangement ~~Arrangement~~ for access control in a multicast system according to claim 7 further ~~any of the claims 7-13~~ comprising means for calculating the first user's ~~(U1)~~ allowed bandwidth.